



National Park Service
U.S. Department of the Interior

Grand Canyon National Park

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Grand Canyon News Release

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The Grand Canyon Association is the official fund-raising partner for the National Park Service on behalf of Grand Canyon National Park

Grand Canyon, Ariz. – Through a formal agreement signed May 30, 2008, the Grand Canyon Association (GCA) has become the official fund-raising partner for the National Park Service (NPS) on behalf of Grand Canyon National Park.

Through this agreement, the NPS and GCA are committed to achieving the following objectives:

- to support and promote Grand Canyon National Park by raising funds for continued maintenance and research, so that the natural and cultural values for which the park was established are unimpaired for the enjoyment, education and inspiration of this and future generations;
- to support and promote a vision of stewardship for the future of the park through increased public education and participation;
- and to foster an open and meaningful exchange of knowledge and ideas from the park's stakeholders including gateway communities, regional civic groups, congressional delegates, other government agencies, and nongovernmental organizations, as well as from visitors and interested parties at the local, national and international levels.

The Grand Canyon Association has been a cooperating partner of the NPS for more than 75 years. As a cooperating partner, GCA has worked closely with the NPS to offer financial support for various programs. Since 1932, GCA has donated more than \$28 million to Grand Canyon National Park's programs and services.

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“The Grand Canyon Association has been an integral partner to the National Park Service and its mission for many years, and we are excited about the additional role they are taking on,” said Grand Canyon National Park Superintendent Steve Martin. “I look forward to working closely with their committed staff and our philanthropic partners on fund-raising endeavors that will directly benefit both the visitor and the park’s unique cultural and natural resources.”

The Grand Canyon Association started out as a small nonprofit organization dedicated to supporting the educational and research efforts of the interpretive division within the NPS in 1932. It now funds activities and programs that are fundamental to the operation of Grand Canyon National Park including co-publishing *The Guide* (Grand Canyon’s official newspaper), supporting NPS interpretive and environmental education programs, financing the historic renovation of Kolb Studio and coordinating art exhibits there, supporting scientific research and sponsoring a series of independent lectures that are presented throughout the year. GCA also operates bookstores within the park, as well as the Grand Canyon Field Institute, which provides in-depth, experiential educational opportunities for people from around the world.

“Fund raising is a very natural, complementary activity for GCA,” said Susan Schroeder, Executive Director of the Grand Canyon Association. “This is an exciting time to work with philanthropic partners to support Grand Canyon National Park’s critical priorities and programs. We are honored to step in and help.”

Schroeder came to GCA this past July after holding various positions at Northern Arizona University (NAU) including Interim Vice President of University Advancement, Interim President of the NAU Foundation, Associate Vice President for University Advancement, and Director of Development for Environmental and Native American Initiatives.

For more information about the NPS/GCA fundraising partnership, please contact Leah McGinnis, Management Assistant to the Superintendent, at (928) 638-7903. For more information about GCA, go to <http://www.grandcanyon.org>.

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